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NPIC/D-134-70

23 APR 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

SUBJECT : Status of Funding for NPIC's Integrated Information System

1. We have encountered some additional software problems in our efforts to complete the Center's Integrated Information System (IIS). You will recall that [redacted], our prime programming contractor, has been in an overrun condition since last December. At that time the contract with [redacted] was amended (without fee) by [redacted] and we slipped the IIS completion date from 1 July to 1 October of this year. [redacted] has again run out of funds, with two major software packages still un-completed.

2. We have assessed the alternatives imposed on us by this latest development. These include: a) continuing with [redacted] in an overrun condition (an additional [redacted]) b) turning to a different contractor to complete the outstanding software packages (estimated [redacted]) and c) completing the software using our own programming resources. We find the first alternative unpalatable, because of the cost and because we would still be dependent on a contractor with a "poor batting average" in software management. We find the second and third alternatives unacceptable because they would set back the 1 October completion date. The learning time required by a new team of programmers to become familiar with the software packages would cause the further slippage.

3. I have elected to pursue an alternative lying between the extremes described above: to negotiate a "time and materials" contract with [redacted] for the full-time services of two key programmers for an estimated [redacted] and a period of four months, and to augment this with in-house programmer resources. We see several advantages to this approach: a) the cost is less; b) we should have direct control over the [redacted] programmers (they would work in-house, under our project manager); and, c) we should avoid the learning lag time of a completely new team and stand a chance of making our 1 October objective. We hope to draw up such a contract within the next week.

4. At the time that we announced the three-month IIS slippage, we indicated a need to extend the related contract with [redacted] who is assisting in the planning and execution of subsystem tests, reliability and back-up provisions, and system performance evaluations. [redacted] has proposed a change-in-scope for [redacted] to cover the three-month time extension caused by the [redacted] delays. We have elected to pick up some of the [redacted] tasks in-house, reducing the change-in-scope to [redacted]

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5. [redacted] the third contractor involved in IIS software development, should finish their efforts on schedule with no additional costs incurred.

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6. As you can see, we are fast approaching the [redacted] which was estimated for the IIS back in May 1968. The additional monies for [redacted] [redacted] would bring the total obligation to approximately [redacted]. I can assure you that we are making every reasonable effort to stay within the target figure.

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Executive Director

National Photographic Interpretation Center

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